
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 1148

AN ACT REDEFINING "MEETING" FOR PURPOSES OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.

SUMMARY:

This bill exempts, from the Freedom of Information Act's (FOIA) open meeting requirements, negotiations between leaders of a public agency from different political parties, with respect to proposed legislation or a proposed agency action. The exemption applies even if the leaders constitute a quorum of the agency.

Under FOIA, a meeting is, with certain exceptions, any (1) hearing or other proceeding of a public agency or (2) convening or assembly of, or communication by or to, a quorum of a multimember public agency, whether in person or by electronic means, to discuss or act upon a matter over which the public agency has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power. FOIA requires that all such meetings, among other things, have a posted agenda, be open to the public, and have minutes available for public inspection within seven days of the meeting.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 10 Nay 4 (04/05/2013)